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Riot and Bloodshed
In Charleston PoliticsSidney Cohen Killed
and Four Others
Wounded.Affray Prevents Canvass of Vote.
Democratic Executive Body
Meeting to Declare Result in
Mayoralty Election, Broken
Up By Shooting—Six Men
Arrested.

Charleston, Oct. 15.—Animosities arising out of the municipal campaign which ended in a primary election last Tuesday with the apparent nomination for mayor of Tristram T. Hyde over the incumbent, John P. Grace, by a majority of 19 votes, flamed into bloodshed when the city Democratic executive committee met at noon today to canvass the returns. Hardly had the chairman, Joseph A. Black, a Hyde man, declared the meeting open before a shot struck down Sidney J. Cohen, a young reporter of the Charleston Evening Post, and in the more or less general exchange of shots which followed four men, all of the Grace faction, were wounded, two of them seriously. During the affray club books were hurled out through windows and in the ensuing scramble in the streets two men were clubbed.

W. A. Turner has a bullet in his right lung, W. E. Wingate is wounded in the hip and has a scalp contusion, Harry L. Wilenski is shot in the arm and Jeremiah O'Brien is shot in the ankle. Max Goldman and Tristram T. Hyde, Jr., suffered minor bruises.

Then men were arrested and afterward released on bail, but of these none is charged with actual participation in the affray. Some of them are held for carrying concealed weapons, the others being merely detained.

Stories of the clash differ widely and no dependable account in detail as to just how or by whom the shooting was done is procurable tonight. A jury of inquest which surveyed the body of young Cohen this afternoon has been indefinitely adjourned.

Forty naval militiamen guard the committee headquarters and 250 other men are held in armories under command of Col. E. M. Blythe of the First Infantry. Troops will police the meeting tomorrow of the executive committee. There is no immediate danger, it is said, of deaths among the wounded.

City Tensely Quiet.

Charleston is tensely quiet and few persons were on the streets this evening.

State constables were especially active today. If illicit liquor dealers were operating tonight they did so most discreetly. All the dispensaries were closed at noon by John Marshall, secretary of the Charleston dispensary board, acting upon orders from Gov. Manning.

Two rooms, neither of them large, make up the headquarters of the city Democratic executive committee. They are on the second floor of a two-story building at King and George streets, admission being through George street. Only members of the committee, counsel for the two factions and for challenged voters and several newspaper men were in the front room. Gathered in the back room were witnesses, partisans and policemen. Accounts obtainable at this time agree that a disturbance in the ante-room preceded by a few seconds the shooting of Mr. Cohen. After a brisk flurry of shots policemen grappled with the men wielding pistols and within a few minutes gained control of the situation. Deputies from the sheriff's office came up on the run and hard on their heels marched militiamen, headed by Capt. Harry O. Withington. The troops formed a hollow square, established a patrol and rolled back the crowd. The injured were removed to hospitals and several suspects were arrested by the police were taken to cells at headquarters. Affidavits of a sensational nature are said to be in preparation and these may or may not become public in the course of the coroner's inquest or other official inquiries that are to follow.

Two ballot boxes retrieved by police from the crowd in the street outside committee headquarters are said to be held at police headquarters. The committee at a brief session this afternoon decided to meet tomorrow morning to resume the work interrupted by today's disorder.

Gov. Manning at Columbia, immediately upon being informed of the shooting, ordered the Washington Light Infantry, a Charleston company, to the scene. The company, with bay-

onets fixed, quickly cleared the streets outside the building where it was feared trouble would develop. Later the guardsmen aided the police and special deputies in patrolling the street and remained on duty late tonight.

Battalion in Readiness.

The entire First battalion, Second regiment, N. G. S. C., located here, was ordered held at the armories ready for eventualities. Gov. Manning also ordered local dispensaries closed until further notice. There were only small groups of men on the streets tonight and there was no outward evidence that there might be more disorder.

The military is under command of Col. E. M. Blythe of Greenville, in the absence of Adj. Gen. Moore, who is attending the rifle matches at Jacksonville. Col. Blythe came here last night on instructions from Gov. Manning.

Charleston has been prepared for trouble as the result of the primary. Last Monday night Gov. Manning ordered four companies of National Guard and three divisions of naval militia held ready at their armories to take over police duties if necessary. Tuesday, the primary day, passed quickly, however, and at 7 o'clock Wednesday morning the guardsmen were relieved.

Followers of a Mayor John P. Grace, an aspirant for renomination, charged that Gov. Manning was trying to interfere with the primary, thereby favoring the faction led by Tristram T. Hyde. This was denied.

Unofficial tabulation of the returns showed that Maj. Hyde had been nominated by a majority of 19 votes. More than 100 votes were contested by the Grace adherents and the city executive committee met today to canvass the returns.

Extra Policemen on Hand.

Bitterness engendered by a campaign in which personalities overshadowed real issues, the presence of the militia on primary day, and the closeness of the vote created such a threatening atmosphere that many extra policemen were detailed in and in front of the building where the meeting was to take place. The building was crowded and a good sized crowd in front was held in check by the officers.

Just as the meeting was to be called to order someone in a hallway adjoining the committee room started a fight. During the scuffling, shouting and jamming in the hallway some one in the committee room fired a shot and the real fight was on. Policemen in the hallway and committee room seemed powerless. Several pistols were brought into play and as the firing continued amid the scramble to escape, yelling and cries of the wounded, some one threw three ballot boxes out of the window.

Cohen's Death Wound.

Cohen was making for a window when struck. A pistol over which two men were fighting discharged and the bullet gave him his mortal wound. Whether any of the wounded were really participating in the melee was not known tonight.

When the shooting was heard in the crowd outside the building trouble was threatened for a time. The extra force of police held the crowd in check and a hurry call was sent to Sheriff Martin and message was sent to Gov. Manning. The governor immediately ordered out the Washington Light Infantry and the members of the company were on the scene within a short time after the first shot was fired. The governor then ordered that the entire battalion be held ready at its armory.

Two ballot boxes thrown from the window during the disturbance were recovered and as far as known tonight none of the boxes is missing.

It was said tonight that the executive committee would make another effort tomorrow to canvass the returns.

Militia on Alert.

Nothing was known publicly in Charleston of Gov. Manning's intention to call out the military again until Col. Edgeworth M. Blythe of the First Infantry arrived at 7 o'clock this morning from his home in Greenville and after a conference at his hotel with Sheriff Martin and Maj. Silcox, directed that two companies of the Second regiment, the Washington Light Infantry and the German Fusiliers, be put under arms at once. Turning out immediately, these admirable commands were held in their armories subject to call from the civil authorities.

Martial law not having been proclaimed, the military could not act further except on request of the sheriff. No call for their service was made until the executive committee meeting had broken up in smoke and blood. Col. Blythe then turned out his men, restored order, the city police and the sheriff's deputies cooperating

took possession of the premises, locked and sealed the room containing such boxes as had not been thrown out of the windows in the confusion and ordered to be mobilized two more companies of infantry and three divisions of naval militia. Tonight Col. Blythe has on duty some 300 men, all of whom are in their armories, uniformed, armed and equipped for active service, except about 40 naval reserves, who are patrolling the block on George street between King and St. Philip streets in which is situated the only entrance to the hall where the ballot boxes are stored and where occurred today's affray. Col. Blythe himself carries the key to the committee room. Persons who applied tonight to Col. Blythe for passes that would admit them to the room for the meeting tomorrow of the committee were told that the militia would admit only members of the committee, and such other persons as the chairman might authorize them to pass. Besides the troops already on duty, Col. Blythe has available on short notice one other division of naval militia, two other Charleston companies of infantry and several reserve companies, the latter possessing artillery. Besides these he has at command the companies of the Second regiment stationed elsewhere than in Charleston, four at Columbia and one each at Timmonsville, Elloree, Sumter and Orangeburg.

Tomorrow's meeting of the committee will likely be held in the armory of the German Fusilier on Wentworth street, between King and Meeting streets. An ample military guard will be assigned to police the premises.

Late tonight arrests had been made as follows: For "carrying concealed weapons," George J. Rentiers, E. L. Elsey, J. H. Steenken, Fred Stenger, Ike Levy, J. J. Healey. Opposite the names of the following on the docket is entered "detained": Max Goldman, Henry J. Brown, Edward McDonald, R. C. Richardson. All of these have been released on bail.

Young Hyde Hurt.

Tristram T. Hyde, Jr., son and namesake of the candidate nominated for mayor last Tuesday over the incumbent, John P. Grace, is bruised about the back of the head and the shoulders as the result of a scuffle which occurred outside the committee rooms. One of the ballot boxes thrown out during the gun fighting upstairs fell into King street. Dick White, employed in Maj. Hyde's real estate brokerage office, picked it up but he was at once surrounded and almost overborne by a group of men. Young Mr. Hyde came up and, fearing for his friend's safety, laid hold of his shoulders, imploring him to drop the box to the pavement. About this time Mr. Hyde was struck heavily from behind with some blunt instrument. He was staggered by the blow and is suffering some pain but is not at all badly hurt.

Responsible men say Max Goldman received his beating about the head as he slid down a telephone pole into the hands of a squad of police in escaping from the committee room during the shooting.

Goldman left the hospital this evening after having his scalp contusions dressed. One story says that as he descended the pole one man fired at him with a revolver but a bystander struck his arm up and the bullet splattered against a wall nearby.

Friends of Chairman Black said late tonight that they would not be surprised if an attempt to effect his arrest and temporary incarceration with a view to preventing him from presiding at the executive committee meeting today should be made. They said policemen had inquired for him during the evening at his house, at Hyde headquarters and at the sheriff's office, saying they wanted to see him to serve a paper.

Deputies, to the number of a score or more, are keeping vigil in the sheriff's office tonight and at the door stand four automobiles with lights burning ready to convey them to any point of disturbance. Rumors have been current that the governor might declare martial law in Charleston should further disorder seem imminent, and these reports have had a sobering effect.

McDavid Horton.

PART POLICE PLAYED
IN THE FATAL MELEE.

Charleston, Oct. 16.—Stories of eyewitnesses of the shooting in the executive committee room which eventuated in the killing of Sidney J. Cohen and the wounding of four other men agree that there was wild disorder and that the police of Charleston took part in it. Shots were fired, clubs used, citizens hustled and beaten, according to these accounts.

Chief Cantwell of the Charleston police force is said to have wielded his pistol in the fracas. J. J. Healey, a deputy sheriff, said: "Chief Cantwell fired a shot at Henry Brown while several men were holding Brown. Some one, I think Mr. Robson, grabbed Chief Cantwell's hand with the pistol in it and begged him not to shoot."

J. W. Robson, an East Bay merchant, said: "I saw with my own eyes several persons rush at a man whom I did not know and force him back, about half-sitting, at the middle win-

dow on the east side of the building. Chief Cantwell came up and deliberately fired with his pistol at his head. I caught his arm and said, 'Don't do that! Don't do that!' Mr. Robson is a member of the committee. He was present at the meeting from the start and did not leave the room until all was over. Conrad Stender says he saw one man in a window on the east side of the room, with three or four men crowding him. "While this was going on, I saw Chief Cantwell come up with his pistol in his hand and fire a shot at this man's head. In the confusion I did not recognize the man. I saw no pistol in his hand." Nath. B. Barnwell, a member of the committee, said: "In the midst of the shooting Chief Cantwell dashed into the room with a drawn pistol and when he got into the room he raised it and I believe fired."

Mayor Grace, it is said, had been "out of the city," and Henry P. Williams, alderman, directed, as mayor pro tem, the police dispositions for dispersing the mob that had been attracted by the shooting. The mayor appeared within about 20 minutes.

Knife and Pistol.

Joseph A. Black, chairman of the city Democratic executive committee, is positive that the first shot was fired in the ante-room. "On seeing pistols flourish there," he said, "I hurried to the telephone to notify Sheriff Martin of the trouble. Some man, quite an old man, cut at me with a knife. I dodged and he slightly wounded my left arm." Capt. Black said he then appealed to Police Sergeant Quinn to restore order, but the sergeant's reply was to draw a revolver on him.

"Some man in the crowd called out, 'Here is the — — — I'll get him, and he threw his pistol up at me. Thinking I was in for a shot, I instinctively put my arm before my face. At this moment a shot was fired from the direction from which this man was coming. Then I say the young newspaper man (Sidney J. Cohen) on the floor at my feet."

"I pulled away and at that time someone else was yelling, 'There goes the — — — we want.' I saw Chief Cantwell at the window with a pistol in his hand as though he were going to shoot some one who was bending over at the window. I can not say whether he shot or not. I have made it a rule to go unarmed all the time I have been serving as chairman of the executive committee. I am a strong Hyde supporter—every chairman is a strong supporter of one side or the other—but I have dealt fairly with both sides. Some of the best men in the city are on my committee and though dissension developed early, we could have got on pretty well if it had not been for trouble from the outside."

Can't Tell of Start.

"Who or what started the shooting I do not know and I can not say I saw anybody actually shoot anybody else," said Nath. B. Barnwell, a member of the committee. Mr. Barnwell has served several terms in the lower house of the general assembly as a member from Charleston. He is a lawyer. "A commotion started in the ante-room," Mr. Barnwell said, "and from where I was sitting it looked as though a fight was going on. I heard Goldman's name mentioned. I heard a pistol shot in the ante-room and the crowd came breaking into the committee room."

"The only man I recognized was W. E. Wingate, who had been standing in the doorway and who came in at the head of the crowd. The policeman in the doorway was swept aside. As the crowd surged in the shooting started, a regular fusillade, apparently from several pistols. In the midst of the shooting Chief Cantwell dashed into the room with pistol drawn, and when he got inside he raised it and, I believe, fired, although the scuffle of people trying to get out prevents me from being positive as to this. I did not see Mr. Cohen shot and did not know until afterward that he was shot. I was unarmed. When I left several men were on the floor. I recognized among them only W. E. Wingate. There were in the building amply sufficient policemen to prevent any disorder, but when the shooting started they were conspicuously absent from the committee room."

"I had suggested to the chairman that it would expedite matters to have the witnesses in the ante-room and he told the police that he wanted no one allowed in the committee room except the members of the committee and the attorneys and no one in the outer room except witnesses. I then went with Capt. Black and assisted in breaking the seals and opening the door into the committee room. When the door had been opened the crowd came in, including committeemen, policemen and others. Capt. Black repeated his instructions, but up to the time of the rioting there were still in the room some persons who had not been gotten out. All of the policemen except two had left the room and these two Capt. Black had directed to stand in the door and keep guard. One of them did stand in the door, but the other was near the window and the crowd was penned up against the door."

Union's Light and
Water System

Grace Men Passed.
W. B. Hogan, a special deputy sheriff, escorted from Hyde headquarters to the committee rooms nine citizens whose votes had been challenged. He was stopped at the door by the policemen on watch there. "Only Grace men were passed," the deputy asserted; "I saw Wingate, Frank Hogan and others allowed to enter. Chief Cantwell called out to the men (the challenged Hyde voters), 'Come in, you cowards, don't be scared to come in.' I heard several pistol shots in the room. I saw a man come sliding down a pole. When he got to the bottom Policeman Quinn and several other police officers took hold of him and clubbed him. I asked who the man was and was told it was Max Goldman."

"George Rentiers took hold of Goldman and tried to protect him from the policemen. Rentiers said, 'Don't strike the man,' but the police raised their clubs. I interfered and Policeman Dawson abused me, but I drew my pistol and showed him my authority as a deputy. Goldman was pretty badly beaten and was bleeding about the head."

Goldman's troubles seem to have started before he left the committee rooms, from which he departed by way of a window, a balcony and a telephone pole. One of the Hyde watchers, John J. Healey, said he was standing in the doorway between the two rooms ordered everybody out except committeemen.

"Rentiers came out," Healey said, "with Max Goldman behind him. Willie O'Brien started to strike Goldman and Rentiers told him he was too small for him to strike."

G. Simms McDowell "saw a man jump from one of the windows, hug a pole and slide down." "Just as soon as he struck the ground," Mr. McDowell said, "I saw a policeman in uniform beat him with his club on the head several times."

Saw the Clubbing.

G. Jeff McDowell, general agent for the Southern States Life Insurance company—a former resident of Columbia—was also a witness to the clubbing of Goldman by policemen. "I saw Goldman come out of the window, without his hat," Mr. McDowell said. "He jumped from the veranda to a telephone pole and came down to the street. In a few seconds there was a large crowd of policemen holding their hands and clubs in the air in a position to catch him as he came down. Several policemen clubbed Mr. Goldman unmercifully. It was the most disgraceful manhandling of a citizen I have ever seen. He was clubbed and jerked about and carried off by the policemen."

Still another eyewitness to the manhandling of Goldman was the rector of St. Luke's Episcopal church, the Rev. Louis G. Wood. Standing at King and George streets, Mr. Wood heard the shooting upstairs. "Immediately afterward," he said, "one man, in escaping, climbed down a telephone pole. Before he reached the ground he was seized, and, I am informed, badly beaten. The crowd was so dense and the confusion so great that I could not see the man when he was on the ground, but I saw a club raised while he was being pulled from the pole, as if to strike him."

John McCrady, a civil engineer, who was in attendance on the meeting as a witness, also beheld the Goldman incident. "I saw Max Goldman standing on the little balcony," Mr. McCrady said. "Soon afterward I saw him climbing down a telephone pole. Before he reached the bottom he was seized by two policemen. He was severely beaten over the head with a club and was bleeding freely."

George Rentiers, who had shielded Goldman from O'Brien in the committee room, was taken outside under arrest and reached the street in time to see Goldman clubbed. "I saw Max Goldman climbing down a pole," he said. "I saw a policeman knock him in the head with his club as he came down." Rentiers declares O'Brien attempted an assault on Goldman several nights ago in King street.

Carried to Station.

Goldman was huddled into a patrol wagon and taken away under arrest, but was released after giving bail and having his scalp wounds dressed.

A wild clangor of fire bells gave notice that the half expected riot had occurred. Somebody in the excitement turned in an alarm.

Harry L. Wilenski, one of the men injured, was reappointed by Mayor Grace only the night before the riot to the position of meter inspector, a sinecure he had held for a year and which it is understood on all sides was in part a reward for political services.

W. E. Wingate, "Big Wingate," has been for some time regarded as an unofficial bodyguard to the mayor.

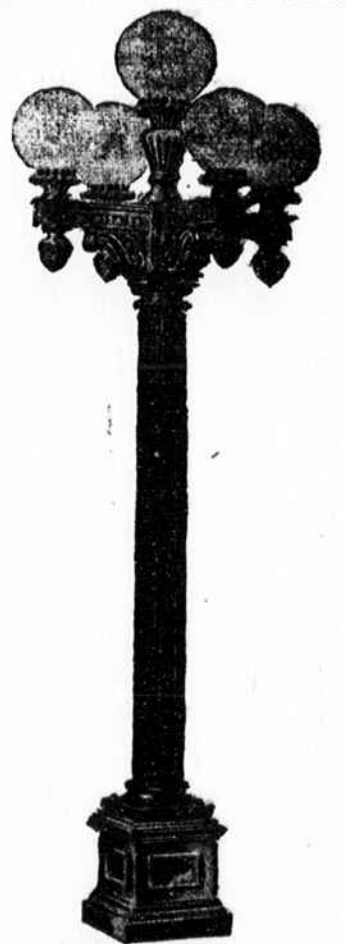
"I can't be positive how many shots

Great Improvements
Made During Past
Few Years.

Water and Sewerage Main Extended—Many Lights Have Been Erected—"White Way" Latest Advances—Will Greatly Benefit the Business Houses on Main Street.

A representative of The Times visited the plant of the Municipal Electric Light & Water Works for the purpose of getting some information concerning the "Great White Way" which is to soon be installed, but after noting the wonderful improvements that have been made within the past few years we decided to get some notes concerning the whole plant, for we, like others who had not visited the plant in sometime, did not realize the great improvements that have been made. Under the management of Mr. W. H. Sartor, Mr. W. S. McLure, as commissioners, and Mr. R. A. Easterling as superintendent, the plant has been developed from a very small affair to one that any city twice the size of Union should be proud of. Only a few years ago when the present management took charge of the plant it had a capacity of only 150 h. p. and had no auxiliary equipment to be thrown in service in case of an accident, while now the plant has a capacity of 600 h. p. and has three engines and dynamos so that in case of trouble there is always a machine ready to be thrown in in place of the disabled one.

Only a few years ago all water was pumped to the city with steam pumps which made it necessary to haul all fuel about two miles in the country for firing the boilers, but all pumping is now done with electric motors and this change not only cut the operating expenses considerably but also gave duplicate pumping equipment which is quite an important consideration, especially in case of fire. The new pumping station which has recently been installed to furnish additional water supply for the city is located on the old Harris mill site on Brown's creek, about five miles north of Union. The building is fireproof, having cement roof and floors and all electrical equipment located on the roof so that all dangerous wires will be out of the reach of visitors. The power is sup-



One of Union's "White Way" Lights.

plied over a 6600 volt power line and a 75 h. p. motor is used to operate the pumps. This station has quite a number of unique engineering features in connection with same and is so installed that same can be operated from Union without the attention of an operator at the pumping station.

Besides the improvements made at the lighting plant and the pumping station all of the lighting and water service lines have been extended so that any party living in the city may be reached with lights and water. The

(Concluded on page 12)